

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated September 6, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Applicants thank the Examiner for a well organized and reasoned response. Applicants also thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of December 4, 2006.

Response to Arguments

Regarding the rejection of independent claims 1, 18, 35, 48, 61, 75, 91, 108, 125, and 130 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,434,524 (Weber), Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are patentable over Weber.

As discussed during the December 4, 2006 telephone interview, Weber does not teach, disclose or suggest analyzing a grammar prior to receiving a speech input. Weber teaches an object interactive user interface using speech recognition and language processing updates the NLP database, general grammar and context-specific grammar to include new information related to the user's responses during the context-based interactive dialog. (9/6/06 Office Action, page 6). This update modification to the grammar provides for the system adaptively learning to recognize phrases uttered by the user, so the next time the user asks for information, a proper match will be found and appropriate actions taken without prompting the user for more information. (Id). Thus, the analysis in Weber modifies a grammar based on previous user input. In contrast, the claimed invention is directed to analyzing the grammar prior to receiving a speech input. That is, the analysis is based on the content of the grammar itself, and are not dependent on the prior user interaction as discussed in Weber.

Based on the foregoing, this application is believed to be in allowable condition, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' Attorney at the number provided below with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. J. Clark', written over a horizontal line.

T. J. Clark

Registration No. 54,039

c/o Mintz, Levin

Telephone 617/ 348-3022

Attorney for Applicants

Customer Number 30623

Dated: December 6, 2006

TRA 2225872v.1